

J. R. Lowrie.—On December 10, 1885, the death of J. Roberts Lowrie Esq., in the 63d year of his age, occurred at his residence in Huntingdon county, Pa. A son of the Hon. Walter Lowrie, at one time U. S. Senator from the state, he was born in the town of Butler. From Jefferson College he received his first academic degree, with honor, in 1842, and devoted himself to the study of law with his uncle, Judge Lowrie, of Pittsburg, afterward Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. As a field for the practice of his profession he chose Hollidaysburg, in Blair county, but a year or two later removed to Warriorsmark, a village at the base of the Bald Eagle Ridge, near the Alleghanies, where he spent the remainder of his life. Having married Mary, the daughter of Mr. John Lyon, the senior member of a firm which owned one of the largest estates in Central Pennsylvania, including farms, furnaces, forges, ore-banks, and many thousand acres of mountain lands covered with forests, he became its legal adviser and the general manager of the domain.

Thus situated he had ample means and opportunity for the study of the natural sciences, to which he was strongly inclined. Of these, botany was his favorite, as a visitor would soon discover from the full and choice array of botanical works on the shelves of his library and the herbarium which occupied a place in the same room. His love of trees and shrubs amounted to a passion, and he was well acquainted not only with all the wild arborescent vegetation in his neighborhood, but, soon after coming to Warriorsmark, converted the extensive grounds attached to his mansion into an arboretum, where now may be seen, after the lapse of more than thirty years, splendid specimens of many beautiful and remarkable species, native and exotic. In the creation of this park he was guided by thorough scientific knowledge and excellent taste. May it long flourish as a monument to his memory.

But his attention was not confined to the cultivation of trees and shrubs. To him the entire flora for many miles around his home was an object of special interest. He made large collections of the rarer plants, and by his efforts one species new to science was brought to light (*Prunus Alleghaniensis* Porter), and a number new to the state, of which may be named *Ilex mollis* Gray, *Lathyrus ochroleucus* Hook., *Symphoricarpos racemosus* Mx., var. *pauciflorus* Robbins, *Phlox ovata* L., *Pinus pungens* Mx. (since found elsewhere), *Listera convallarioides* Hook. The circumstances under which the last was obtained will furnish a good illustration of his energy and zeal as an explorer. On a botanical trip to the Bear Meadows, an elevated mountain-bog in Center county, he made his way very slowly, and with great toil for a considerable distance, through a dense wall of rhododendrons to an open space where he gathered the plant, its only known station south of N. New York, and then, with his treasure in hand, by the aid of a compass, struggled back through the jungle to the point where he had entered—a difficult and dangerous feat which occupied several hours.

In person Mr. L. was tall and rather slender. His eye was keen and his movements quick. In temperament he was grave but cheerful, and to his intimate friends a most agreeable companion, decided in his opinions but tolerant, a man of sterling integrity and great influence, courteous in his manners, hospitable, and above all an earnest Christian. *Requiescat in pace.*

THOMAS C. PORTER.